

THE LOGGER'S BARK**Radio Club of Tacoma, Inc.****P.O. Box 11188****Tacoma, WA 98411**

FEBRUARY 2006 EVENTS

Board Meeting, Wednesday February 1st 7:30 p.m. Clubhouse - All members welcome

License Testing - Tuesday, February 14th 2006. 7 PM, Clubhouse

BARK deadline Sunday February 19th 2006- PLEASE get articles, columns, etc. in by that time!

- Support OUR club - Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer.
- Check in to the 2-meter Net every Tuesday night at 7:30, on 147.28. Hear additional information on programs and other events.
- Informal 2-meter SSB net every Tuesday on 144.275 MHz USB, after the formal repeater net on 147.280 feel free to drop in.
- Check in on the 10 Meter Net every Sunday evening, 8 PM, on 28.375 MHz USB

BOARD (5)

LOGGER'S BARK STAFF

REPORTERS:

PUBLISHER W7DK PRESS AC7WW 253-475-5854

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147.28 / .88 MHz (PL 103.5)	144.97 - Packet	440.625 / 445.625 (PL 103.5)
147.38 / .98 MHz (PL 103.5)		

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The Radio Club of Tacoma is a non profit organization as defined by law, and all proceeds will be used exclusively for charitable and educational purposes.

E-mail all articles & advertising to thebark@comcast.net, or to
:Gary McAdams 11405 88th AVE CT SW Lakewood, WA 98498-

The Logger's Bark

RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

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Special points of interest:

- Elmer board page 4
- Rubber Ducky gets Techy on page 6!
- February Calendar page 5
- All the usual suspects throughout the "BARK"

From The Prez

From The Prez

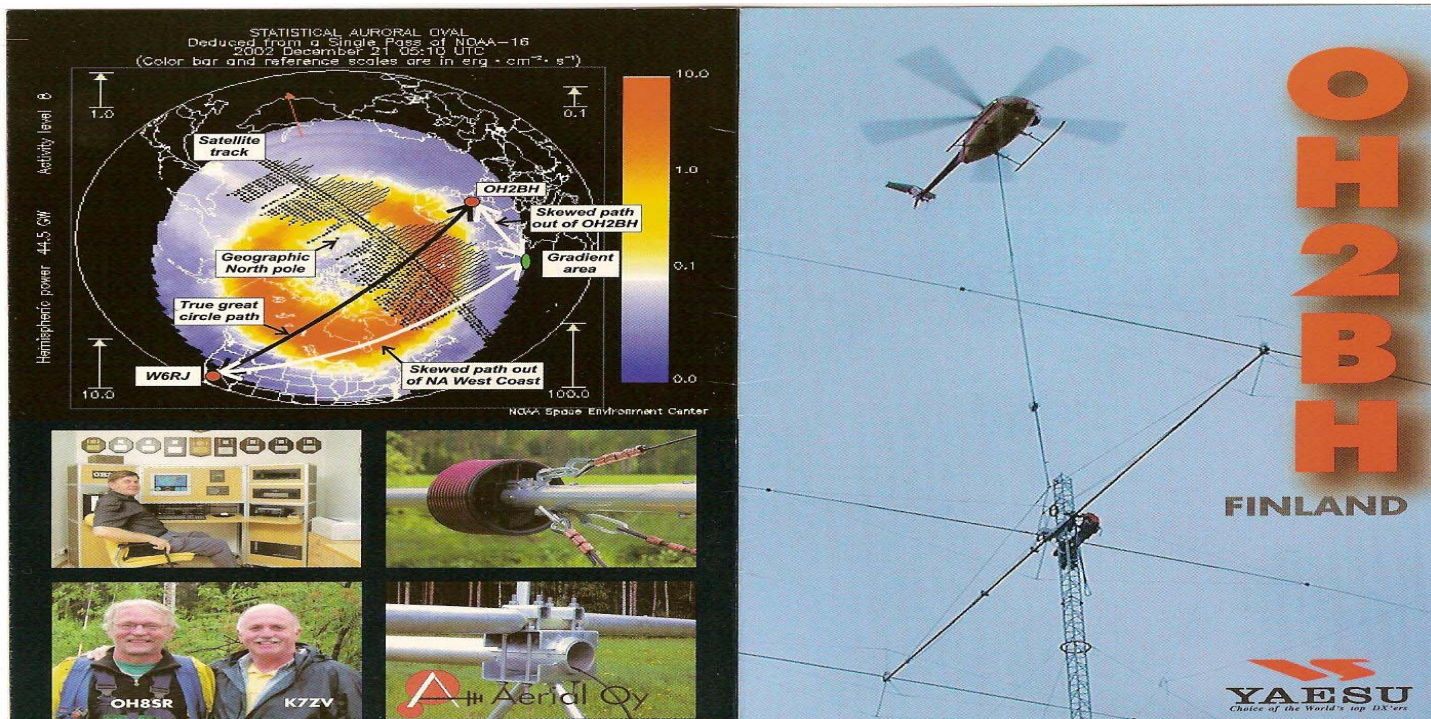


I would like to start out with a little review of what we are doing at the board meetings these days. We have been trying to complete the clubs foundation by forming some important committees. We have formed a safety committee to insure that the clubs first aid kit and fire extinguishers are kept up. Of course the committee will provide a lot more than just the simple basics in the future. Rick Rose / KE7EMW has been appointed to chair the committee. Rick has already presented a outline of some of the things he would like to see happen. We hope to make the clubhouse a safe place to visit. (Not to mention legal). Most of you know that we have a planning committee that is hard at work to insure the club has a future and a clear path to follow. This is something we have been in need of for quite some time. I have confidence in the committees ability to see that the future of our club is

secure. It has also been working on outlining job descriptions for the duties of officers and standing committee chairs. This will help those that would like to get involved, but just don't know where to start and how to proceed. Things are starting to come together. Jill / K7JIL has the membership data under control, and is keeping it current and up to date. If you have any changes in any of your contact information, be sure to get it to her. This will insure the data is accurate for the club roster. We have also started an ad lib committee to celebrate the clubs 90th anniversary. Peter Baker / AD7EU is heading this committee. We hope to have an event much like the one we did for our 85th. If you have any questions or ideas you can contact Peter. He is listed in the roster and on the web site as one of our board members. Lets not forget it is time to renew your dues for 2006. If you like you can even sponsor someone that would like to be a member but just can't swing the cost. I sponsored Steve / WB2LKI for 2006. Join in and help someone become a member of our club. Till next month.

73 de kk7qs.

QSL Card of the Month Submitted by: Harry, K7LAZ



Harry, K7LAZ submitted this QSL from OH2BH, who, as many know, is a fanatical DX'er from Finland. Even though it is not easy to see here, that is a FULL-SIZE!! 80 meter beam!

Elmer Board

Do you need help with some area in ham radio? Here is a place to start... First is the listing of areas of support, followed by a list of members' areas of interest.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Technical questions, Classes | 11. Using test equipment |
| 2. Help with Code | 12. IRLP |
| 3. License Examinations | Name/Call Sign /Phone Number/ Help with topic |
| 4. Antenna and Station planning | Alan, KB7SVU 253-840-4947: 4, 5, 10 |
| 5. Antenna and Tower erection | Frank, N7UO 253-752-8520 : 2, 3 |
| 6. Buying new or used equipment | Angela, KC7EQ 253-589-4071: 2 |
| 7. Equipment repair | Mick, KK7QS 253-891-6950 : 12 |
| 8. Understanding and operating your equipment | Gary WG7X 253-984-0868: 1,4,5,6,8,9,10,11 |
| 9. DX and Contests | If you are willing to share your time and knowledge with "newbees" and others, let us know and get on the Elmer Board! |
| 10. Club and ARRL activities | |

Schedule of Events

- Tuesdays February 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th Club Repeater net 147.280
- SSB Net, same dates as above on 144.275 USB after SSB net.
- Board Meeting Wednesday February 1st @ 7:30 PM at RCT club house.
- General meetings on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays: that's the 8th & 22nd.
- VE Testing at RCT Club-house Tuesday Feb. 14th at 7:30 PM.
- Valentines Day is on the 14th. Don't forget!
- Tax day is only 1.5 months away. Panic now and avoid the rush!

FEBRUARY 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

EDITORS NOTES...



Hello Again Club Members!

when HF propagation and contest activity perks up.

This month's "Bark" is a little light, which reflects the usual after holiday slow down.

For you sweethearts out there, don't forget Valentines Day!

Well, this month we are looking forward to the Super Bowl! Now, some of you out there, like me, are probably not real sports fans, but even an old curmudgeon like me can get into the spirit of the event when the home team is in the game. I'll be watching, as will most of you I suspect, on Super Bowl Sunday.

February is also a slow Amateur radio activity month. Most of us are hibernating waiting impatiently for the early spring months

I'm getting the hang of this editor stuff, but please don't forget that the "Bark" is YOUR publication just as much as anyone else's. So if you have an article please send it in!

We are also always on the lookout for photo's of club members/activities. Send those along too! Preferably with a short note explaining who/what/where!

Until Next month, 73, Gary WG7X

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A RUBBER DUCKY?



Hi It's February and the Manson's are doing fine.

You might remember last month I asked about phasing two yagi antennas. I think I said; "if I used two 100 ohm gamma matches (a little longer than the 50 ohm ones) and brought them together at a "T" with two electrical 1/2 wave 50 ohm chunks

of coax (or multiples of 1/2 wave) from each antenna you would see 50 ohms at the "T". (2- 100 ohms in parallel = 50 ohms) Well I found another way to do it. In February 06's QST, page #59 in the "DOCTOR IS IN" column, someone asked that same question and the answer was to use two pieces of coax any length but the same impedance. And two chunks of 72 ohm coax. an electrical 1/4 wave long in the center, then to the "T" and then 50 ohm coax. down to the radio. They said the 72 ohm coax. would make the 50 come out to 112 ohms each at the "T", and in parallel that would be 56 ohms. 3%, close enough. The tolerance of a mid-priced SWR bridge is at least 3 to 5 % anyway.

Also did anyone ever come up with the answer to the end effect question I had last December '06?

I found in an old handout in my stuff, a variation on the old tried and true parallel resistor Math. You remember them, $R_t = (R_1 * R_2) / (R_1 + R_2)$ or $R_t = 1 / (1/R_1 + 1/R_2 + 1/R_3 + \text{etc...})$ It's called: "The Parallel Resistance Shortcut"

Assuming you know what you want for R_t (R total), you will be solving for R_1 , R_2 , and R_3 , etc.

To find the first resistor, R_1 , simply multiply the desired value of R_t by any simple number. To find the matching value of R_2 , divide R_1 by a number that is one less than the first number chosen. If you want 500 ohms, for example, multiply that value by, say, 5. This gives you 2500 ohms for R_1 .

Dividing R_1 , 2500 ohms by 4 now gives you 625 ohms for R_2 . A multiplier of 7 and a divisor of 6 gives you another pair, 3500 and 583. Using 4 and 3 yields 2000 and 666. You now have several possibilities before checking your stock. Tolerance being what they are, converting your answers to the nearest standard values will give little trouble.

In the last pairing cited, for example, suppose you shunted a

2000 ohm resistor across a standard, 680 ohm unit. You would theoretically have 507 ohms instead of 500 ohms. Is this error of slightly more than 1 % significant in the light of available tolerances and actual requirements?

Suppose you have such a limited resistor assortment on hand that you can't find a parallel pair, even now, and you have to try it with three units in shunt. Let's say you need 60 ohms. You have multiplied by 7 to give you 420 ohms for R_1 (which you have) but you can't find a matching R_2 .

You take your second factor ($7 - 1 = 6$) and split it up into any two numbers that add up to it. For example, 4 and 2 makes 6. (3 and 3 would work) divide each of these new numbers separately into R_1 . The two answers will be the values for R_2 and R_3 . In this case, $420 / 4$ gives you 105; and $420 / 2$ gives you 210. 420 ohms, 105 ohms, and 210 ohms in parallel will come down to 60 ohms exactly.

Using standard values, 430, 100, and 220 would provide 59.3 ohms, less than two percent off. This method can be extended for any number of parallel units.

A variation of the method works in reverse; that is, when you start out with a number of resistors and wish to determine what



they will come to in parallel. It is much simpler than using the reciprocal formula.

Assume you want to know what four resistors, whose ohmic values are 540, 270, 180, and 90, will come to in parallel. First divide each resistor's value into that of the largest one in the group. You quickly find that $540 / 540 = 1$, $540 / 270 = 2$, $540 / 180 = 3$, and $540 / 90 = 6$. You add up your quotients as follows: $1 + 2 + 3 + 6 = 12$. Now divide the highest value by this sum. This division, $540 / 12$, gives you an answer of 45 ohms.

And what do you know, it works. Well we'll see you in March. So 73 from Rich N7ANF

VE TEAM REPORT

VE REPORT by John Clarke AC7WW

class license.

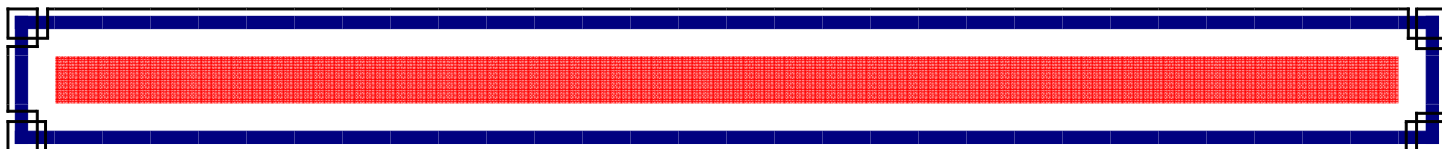
13 Volunteer Examiners's administered 28 elements to 18 candidates on the evening of January 10, 2006 at the Radio Club of Tacoma Clubhouse.

We had one gentleman that held a license in 1943, that passed the technician test and another that was licensed in the 1960's that also passed the technician test on their way to regaining privileges on the amateur bands.

13 new technicians joined the ranks of the Amateur Radio Service.

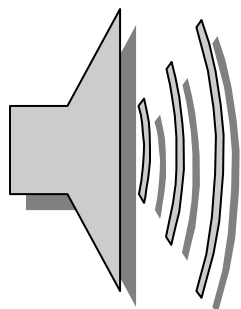
Next Testing Session will be Tuesday February 14th, 2006.

Rick Rose KE7EMW, passed the CW code test and an eleven year old from Puyallup passed his technician



Mini-Swap Meet at the Clubhouse

Last Saturday of each month Mini Swap Meet at the Clubhouse ... 10 a.m. to 2 p.m....There will be food (hot dogs, etc.) ...Bring in your items you want to swap or sell or stop by to see what others bring.



*Check in to the Tuesday evening Net at 7:30p.m. on 147.28
(the W7DK repeater) for the latest news
and announcements from the club!*

10 meter Net Sunday evening 8 p.m. On 28.375

CW net meets on Sunday evening 7 p.m. on 28.150

2-Meter SSB Net every Tuesday after FM net, 144.275

CONTINUOUSLY ACTIVE SINCE 1916.

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E-mail:

EDITOR:: Use web site address or, thebark@comcast.net

PRESIDENT:: Use Web site address

All other officers: Use web site address.

If you know anyone in the club who could use a word of cheer, congratulations or condolences, please contact Jill Palmer, K7JIL, 253-539-7772 or e-mail hamtalker2@msn.com

We're on the WEB: WWW.W7DK.ORG

HOW ABOUT A LITTLE HUMOR? (VERY LITTLE)

Why Computers Sometimes Crash! By Dr. Seuss.

If a packet hits a pocket on a socket on a port, and the bus is interrupted at a very last resort, and the access of the memory makes your floppy disk abort, then the socket packet pocket has an error to report.

If your cursor finds a menu item followed by a dash, and the double-clicking icon puts your window in the trash, and your data is corrupted cause the index doesn't hash, then your situation's hopeless and your system's gonna crash!

If the label on the cable on the table at your house, says the network is connected to the button on your mouse, but your packets want to tunnel to another protocol, that's repeatedly rejected by the printer down the hall.....

And your screen is all distorted by the side effects of gauss, so your icons in the window are as wavy as a souse; then you may as well reboot and go out with a bang, 'cuz sure as I'm a poet, the sucker's gonna hang.

When the copy on your floppy's getting sloppy in the disk and

the macro code instructions is causing unnecessary risk, then you'll have to flash the memory and you'll want to RAM your ROM, and then quickly turn off the computer and be sure to tell your Mom!

Well, that certainly clears things up for me. How about you?

An old snake goes to see his Doctor. "Doc, I need something for my eyes, I can't see very well these days."

The Doc fixes him up with a pair of glasses and tells him to return in 2 weeks.

The snake comes back in 2 weeks and tells the doctor he's very depressed. Doc says, "What's the problem? Didn't the glasses help you?"

"The glasses are fine doc, but I just discovered I've been living with a water hose the past 2 years."

FCC INVITES COMMENTS ON LEAGUE'S "REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH" PETITION

Comments are due by Monday, February 6, on the ARRL's Petition for Rule Making that asks the FCC to regulate the amateur bands by necessary bandwidth rather than by mode. The petition, designated as RM-11306, recommends what the ARRL calls "a shift in regulatory philosophy" to encourage and enable development and refinement of digital techniques and advanced technologies.

"This petition seeks for the Amateur Radio Service the flexibility to experiment with new digital transmission methods and types to be developed in the future while permitting present operating modes to continue to be used for as long as there are radio amateurs who wish to use them," the League said in its petition, filed November 14. The ARRL says the changes it suggests also will update the FCC's rules and eliminate the need for "cumbersome procedures" to determine whether a new digital mode is legal under Part 97.

The next step in this proceeding would be either a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) or a dismissal of the League's petition. An NPRM would kick off a further round of formal comments. For the rules to take effect, the FCC would have to issue a Report and Order putting the changes into place and setting an effective date.

The ARRL is asking the FCC to replace the table at §97.305(c) with a new one that segments bands by necessary bandwidths ranging from 200 Hz to 100 kHz.

Unaffected by the ARRL's recommendations, if they're adopted, would be 160 and 60 meters. Other bands below 29 MHz would be segmented into sub-bands allowing maximum emission bandwidths of 200 or 500 Hz or 3.5 kHz, with an exception for AM phone.

- 200 Hz would permit CW "at all speeds that human operators can decode" as well as PSK31.
- 500-Hz bandwidth would accommodate RTTY and data modes and possibly some new image modes.
- 2.8 kHz would remain the bandwidth for 60-meter operation on USB.

*3.5 kHz would accommodate SSB and digital telephony, image, high-speed data and multimedia.

* 9 kHz is the ARRL's recommendation for double-sideband AM.

* 16 kHz is "a reasonable compromise bandwidth" to continue to permit analog

FM voice, data, digital voice and multimedia at 29.0 to 29.7 MHz.

* 100 kHz, now permitted for RTTY and data in bands above 420 MHz, should be allowed starting at 50 MHz, with the exception of 50.0-50.3 MHz and 144.0-144.3 MHz to allow digital multimedia and high-speed meteor scatter work.

The ARRL says the Part 97 changes it's proposing constitute a balance "between the need to encourage wider bandwidth, faster digital communications and the need to reasonably accommodate all users in crowded bands." Conceding that its regulation-by-bandwidth regime would place increased responsibility on the amateur community to establish workable, accepted band plans, the League has expressed confidence that such an effort would be successful.

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, has discussed the subject of regulating by bandwidth in three "It Seems to Us . . ." QST editorials: "Regulation by Bandwidth" in September 2004, "Narrowing the Bandwidth Issues" in April 2005 and "Self Regulation" in October 2005.

"This petition does not favor one mode at the expense of another," the ARRL concluded in urging FCC adoption. "It merely allows expansion of the repertoire of options that amateurs may pursue compatibly."

A copy of the ARRL petition is on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/bandwidth/Bandwidth-Minute-64-Petition-FINAL.pdf>>

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ARRL RENEWS INTERFERENCE COMPLAINT AGAINST AMBIENT CORP BPL INSTALLATION

In the wake of continued FCC inaction in response to several previous complaints, on January 5 the ARRL filed a renewal of the complaint against the Ambient Corporation's Broadband over Power Line system in Briarcliff Manor, New York. The BPL system is operated by Ambient, on power lines owned and operated by Consolidated Edison, under an experimental FCC authorization.

The latest communication points out that the FCC, without adjudicating ARRL's repeated complaints about interference throughout the amateur 20 meter band, renewed Ambient's experimental license for an additional term, from August 1, 2005 to August 1, 2007. "The Briarcliff Manor BPL system currently (still) causes harmful interference to Amateur Radio communications and it is not compliant with applicable FCC part 15 regulations," according to the ARRL complaint. "Neither," it continues, "is it compliant with the terms of the experimental authorization granted by the Commission, most recently on August 1, 2005."

It continues: "ARRL reiterates its request, now more than a year old, that the BPL facility be instructed to shut down immediately; and that it not resume operation unless the facility is shown to be in full compliance with Commission rules regarding radiated emissions and with the non-interference requirement of the Commission's Rules and the terms of the experimental authorization. Finally,

information about it must be listed in the BPL publicly accessible database."

Appended to the January 5 complaint letter was a 25 page engineering report entitled "Additional Testing of BPL System in Briarcliff Manor, NY." ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, wrote the report after conducting further tests at the site December 5, 2005. The report points out that he had conducted similar tests twice before during 2005, and three times during 2004. In this earlier testing, Hare found significant violations of FCC rules regarding Part 15 emissions limits.

The January 5 ARRL complaint, entitled "Continued Request for Immediate Cessation of Operation," was signed by ARRL Counsel Christopher D. Imlay, W3KD, and was sent to the FCC's Joseph Casey, Bruce Franca and James Burtle. Casey is Chief, Spectrum Enforcement Division, while Franca serves as Acting

Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology, and Burtle is Chief, Experimental Licensing Division. A copy was also sent to the counsel for Ambient Corporation.

For more about BPL, see the BPL pages on the ARRLWeb

<<http://www.arrl.org/bpl>>.

HIGH FREQUENCY (HF) SCREWDRIVER MOTOR DRIVEN ANTENNAS 10 METERS THROUGH 80 METERS

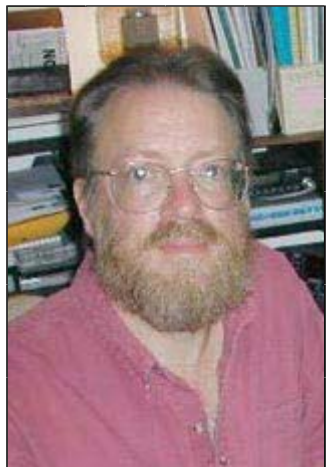
FOR INFORMATION SEE:

Al Churchill, AC7BU
253-847-3215
725 190th St E
Spanaway, WA. 98387
E-Mail to: wilmacc@peoplepc.com

Steve Blacksten, KD7UBE
253-847-9884
PO Box 536
Spanaway, WA 98387

Members of Radio Club of Tacoma, W7DK, www.w7dk.org

CONVERSATIONS FROM THE CONTESTORS RATE SHEET, BY WARD, NOAX



Give the Wheel A Shove

In the past six months, the US has experienced three major hurricanes, wildfires, and severe weather--all of which resulted in widespread callouts of amateur emergency communications volunteers. Responding organizations included ARES teams, SATERN, Hurricane Watch Net, Red Cross, and numerous others.

What if a disaster did occur close to home? What would you do if called to respond? How best could you serve? Let's look to our strengths. Contesters are already skilled in some badly needed emcomm capabilities; accurate copying and sending, operating stamina, and having stations capable of effectively communicating near and far on a wide range of frequencies.

Accurate copying and sending, often under difficult conditions, are skills on which we pride ourselves. Our top competitors have unworldly copying capabilities and know how to get their information through tough QRM and QRN. This is a good start when accuracy means a lot more than just scoring penalties.

Next comes stamina. Many testers can do hour after hour "in the chair" and think nothing of it. Whether we could do the same under emergency conditions is another question, but I'm willing to bet that we would give a good account of ourselves. This keeps the good start rolling.

Strong station coverage is another tester hallmark. Many of us have stations with capabilities in the upper percentiles of hams in general. We can put these to work in emergencies and disasters, punching big signals through into or out of the affected area. It's common for contest stations to have antennas that can blanket local and regional areas as well as hold a frequency in a DX contest.

These are all great, but they're not quite enough by themselves to ensure that you'll be able to help out when needed. It's trite but true that symphonies sound a whole lot better when the musicians have read and practiced the music. If you responded, would you respond credibly and competently? Or would you stumble around? Would you even know who to contact and where to tune?

Now's the time to figure that stuff out, not after the ground shakes or after the hurricane dies down. Spend some time browsing the 'net and making a few phone calls some evening or weekend afternoon. Make up a contact sheet with the contact information for ARRL and ARES leadership stations, as well as other organizations that are active in your area. Find out where your local and regional nets meet and at what times. On what frequencies do the local emergency response groups meet?

Once you have the contact information in hand, do you know the appropriate procedures? Many of us grew up handling traffic, but when was the last time you handled a radiogram? Where is that yellow-and-green pad in your station, anyway? Download the ARRL's FSD-218 "Everything you wanted to know about radiograms" form at <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/forms/#fsd-218>.

More than likely, you'll also have to interface with something called the "Incident Management System" which is the way most emergencies and disasters are handled by government agencies. Never heard of it?

Here's a link to FREE training -

<http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/IS/is700.asp>. Go one further and take the inexpensive ARRL training course EC-001 -

<http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html#ec001>.

Then you need to practice. You don't have to make Brass Pounders League every month, but it would be nice to tune in a traffic net and handle a message or two. Check in to your state and county emergency nets, even as a visitor, just to get used to the call signs and procedures. Monitor a SATERN or HWN session. Do whatever is needed to avoid showing up ignorant in a real emergency.

The late Jim Maxwell W6CF, one of the brightest and most experienced hams ever, told me that after becoming the Pacific Division director he discovered that there was more to ham radio than he had ever imagined! This is likely true for all of us, even though we may be contest mavens, skilled in all phases of the radio sporting art. If you decide to broaden your ham radio perspectives, I can think of no better wheel against which to put your capable shoulders than to public service in the form of emergency communications.

73, Ward NOAX

FEBRUARY CONTESTS

Vermont QSO Party	0000Z, Feb 4 to 2400Z, Feb 5
YL-ISSB QSO Party	0000Z, Feb 4 to 2359Z, Feb 5
10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	0001Z, Feb 4 to 2359Z, Feb 5
YLRL YL-OM Contest, CW	1400Z, Feb 4 to 0200Z, Feb 6
Minnesota QSO Party	1400Z-2400Z, Feb 4
AGCW Straight Key Party	1600Z-1900Z, Feb 4
Delaware QSO Party	1700Z, Feb 4 to 0500Z, Feb 5 and 1300Z, Feb 5 to 0100Z, Feb 6
Mexico RTTY International Contest	1800Z, Feb 4 to 1759Z, Feb 5
North American Sprint, SSB	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 5
ARCI Winter Fireside SSB Sprint	2000Z-2400Z, Feb 6
ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Feb 7
KCJ Topband Contest	1200Z, Feb 9 to 1200Z, Feb 10
CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 11 to 2400Z, Feb 12
New Hampshire QSO Party	0001Z, Feb 11 to 0001Z, Feb 13
SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Feb 11 to 1000Z, Feb 12
Asia-Pacific Spring Sprint, CW	1100Z-1300Z, Feb 11
Dutch PACC Contest	1200Z, Feb 11 to 1200Z, Feb 12
YLRL YL-OM Contest, SSB	1400Z, Feb 11 to 0200Z, Feb 13
Louisiana QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 11 to 0300Z, Feb 12
OMISS QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 11 to 1459Z, Feb 12
FISTS Winter Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Feb 11
British Columbia QSO Challenge	1800Z, Feb 11 to 1800Z, Feb 12
RSGB 1st 1.8 MHz Contest, CW	2100Z, Feb 11 to 0100Z, Feb 12
North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 12
ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Feb 13 to 2400Z, Feb 17
AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening	1900Z-2030Z, Feb 15
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 18 to 2400Z, Feb 19
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Feb 20
Russian PSK WW Contest	2100Z, Feb 24 to 2100Z, Feb 25
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	0000Z, Feb 25 to 2359Z, Feb 26
REF Contest, SSB	0600Z, Feb 25 to 1800Z, Feb 26
UBA DX Contest, CW	1300Z, Feb 25 to 1300Z, Feb 26
Mississippi QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 25 to 0300Z, Feb 26
CZEBRIS Contest	1600Z, Feb 25 to 2400Z, Feb 26
North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 25 to 0600Z, Feb 26
High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z-1100Z, Feb 26 and 1500Z-1700Z, Feb 26
North Carolina QSO Party	1700Z, Feb 26 to 0300Z, Feb 27
CQC Winter QSO Party	2200Z, Feb 26 to 0359Z, Feb 27

Radio Club of Tacoma Board Meeting

January 4, 2006

The January 4th 2006 board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma club house. President Mick Pier-KK7QS called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President:	Mick Pier -- KK7QS,
Vice President:	Jill Palmer -- K7JIL,
Secretary:	Larry Watson -- KD4VOM,
Treasurer:	Pat Wingerter-- KD7TRC,
Board Member	Gary McAdams -- W7GX
Board Member	Roddney Saucedo --
WV7O	
Board Member	Peter Baker -- AD7EU
Board Member	Larry Alvar -- KD7TQW

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached.

A quorum was present.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Minutes from the December 7th 2005 board meeting were approved as read/corrected.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM

Correspondence included several bills, telephone, broadband, a Pierce County personal property inventory notice, a returned membership receipt and one membership payment and form.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Pat Wingerter -- KD7TRC

Pat advised the board that the end of year financial report will be available at the next Board Meeting.

Pat also advised the Board that the creation of a Budget Plan required by the Club Bylaws depends on Budget needs being identified by committee chairs and project managers. Book and Periodicals from ARRL are an example of budget estimates needed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Library: Pat -- KR7TRC reported that the Library committee has established several actions to complete their work. A labeling system and a Dewey Decimal System database have been established to record and label our library documents. Action is underway to clear away an area in the central upstairs for installation of new shelving to hold our collection and will have a computer which will serve the Library operations and database files as well as other Club administrative needs. It is expected that a network will be designed and installed to serve several Club computer operations. Work will begin on the shelving construction in this month.

In order to preserve our collection, some of which is very valuable, the library lending policy will be severely restricted. However, the copy machine is available to copy any needed documents, and many items will be digitized and stored for softcopy media downloads at the computer.

Equipment Operations: Mike Compton -- KB7ZDR reported on the continuing success of donated equipment repair and sales. Over \$ 2000.00 in 2005.

Planning: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM reported that the Planning group continues its work. Al Burleson has completed a draft of a new Radio Club of Tacoma "Money Matters" adapted from a similar PTA document. When it completes the Planning group review, it will be presented to the Board for its review and adoption. Work also continues on the Officers and Board members Primer, which will provide written job descriptions, duties and responsibilities for Club Officers and Board members.

Membership: Jill Palmer--K7JIL Jill Reported that renewal memberships are coming along well (at the rate of 4 or 5 per week). Over 70 thus far, not counting life and/or honorary memberships.

Jill raised a discussion which included errors being found in the existing database, and questioned if there were a different membership card for Lifetime/Honorary members. During the ensuing discussion it became clear that there had been several different types of cards for Lifetime/Honorary members.

There was also a discussion of whether we should provide new membership cards every year or not. Some felt that members wanted the new card, others that it might not be necessary. Jill felt that it wasn't that difficult to produce them, but the printing cost is unknown at this time.

Relative to the Life/Honorary memberships; Jill will try to resolve a list of Lifetime/Honorary members, and will undertake creation of a Lifetime/Honorary membership card which will be laminated for extended life.

Jill also reported on the progress of the Access Membership Database that Rick Rose has been developing for her. It was in this process that many of the membership file discrepancies have surfaced. The automated computer database is also expected to significantly reduce the membership management workload and error rate. There is reason to believe that the Access database program may also be able to print the membership cards.

Action: The Board agreed to Jill's proposal to issue laminated membership cards for Lifetime and Honorary Members.

Silent Key: Jill – K7JIL Jill has card ready to send to the family of Roy Rudebaugh – N7ARG, but has no other address than his own. The board recommended sending it to his address in the hope that it would be forwarded to his family.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Donated Vehicle Status: Mick – KK7QS reported that one person was interested in the vehicle, but needed a payment plan which the Club could not agree to. Board consensus was to place the vehicle on consignment. Rich – N7ANF said he was going to contact a club member he knew who might be interested in purchasing the vehicle.

Action: Roddney – WV7O agreed to contact potential consignment dealers who might accept the vehicle for sale.

NEW BUSINESS:

Club Parliamentarian: Mick – KK7QS Appointed Al Burleson K7HW as Club Parliamentarian.

BARK Mailing: John Clarke – AC7--WW John reported that the list of members requesting postal mailing of the

BARK is growing and expensive. The list currently numbers around 45, of which 9 are complimentary Student subscriptions. John reported that each mailing was running around 83 cents each. We must use First Class postage because we do not mail sufficient numbers of the BARK to qualify for our bulk postage rate. At this rate, the First Class BARK postage cost to the Club would pass \$ 400 per year. *The January 2006 BARK mailing list is attached to the minutes.*

Considerable discussion ensued which addressed the questions of BARK mailing and costs. When the Club elected to make its Newsletter available for Internet Online Downloading, it agreed to continue sending the BARK to those requesting it. The result of the discussion was a decision by the Board to change the way new Student subscriptions were handled.

Motion to Change New Student process: A motion was made by Larry Alvar, Seconded by Peter Baker, to: Remove the complimentary mailing subscription now initiated on successful completion of the student training program. Instead, upon successful completion of VE license testing, to provide a welcome package which would include a Welcome letter from the President, a Radio Club of Tacoma membership application form, Radio Club of Tacoma and ARRL pamphlets, a complimentary hardcopy BARK, along with instructions on how to access the Club Website and download future issues of the BARK .

The Motion Carried.

Action: Mick – KK7QS create Welcome Letter, and notify Steve Morton. John – AC7WW agreed to provide the packages to those successfully completing the licensing process at the VE sessions.

Open: Determine additional content of the Welcome package, i.e. RCT and ARRL Flyers, BARK Samples, Website access and BARK downloading information, and construction of packages and envelopes to pre-position with the VE Team.

Club Safety Survey: Rick Rose – KE7EMW reported on his Club safety survey. Rick has done a very thorough job of identifying Club and Clubhouse safety issues and problems. The problems ranging from first aid kits at the

club house to raising money for an Automatic Defibrillator were tabulated and explained.

During the discussion, it was recommended that the list be prioritized and some estimate of cost/expense be established for each item to assist in the decision process. It was also pointed out that some of the items could be done by self help. There was also a discussion of the limitations of local only smoke alarms, which might alert members who are in the clubhouse, but wouldn't let anyone else know of the alarm.

Action: Rick Rose – KE7EMW establish a first cut prioritization and cost estimates where possible.

Book Sales: Pat – KD7TRC mentioned the need to know how much we should budget for the coming year for ARRL Books and Periodicals. Mick --- KK7QS advised the board that Steve Morton had volunteered to pick up the ARRL ordering, but there was concern that Steve may not be able to attend the regular meetings as Jerry has done in the past. Bill Lucas has offered to handle the regular meeting book sales.

Action: Open – The issue of how to insure that ARRL books and periodicals are made regularly available at the regular membership meetings requires resolution.

Clubhouse Spring Cleaning: Pat – KR7TRC tabled an idea to establish a day (perhaps a weekday when no other activities are scheduled) to open the Clubhouse for needed cleaning and maintenance. The ensuing discussion resulted in favorable consideration of this proposal. The Board consensus was to establish a day in the spring when days were longer and warmer, and present the idea to at the regular membership meetings. It was also suggested that a list of project items be constructed to facilitate getting the right skills, equipment and tools necessary for whatever work was planned.

Action: Construct a list of potential spring cleaning and maintenance tasks.

Radio Club of Tacoma 90th Anniversary: Since October 16th this year is the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Radio Club of Tacoma, the planning for our celebration needs to get underway.

Peter Baker – AD7EU volunteered to head this project,

which will draw on activities developed for our 85th anniversary and the expertise of those in the club who were involved in the last anniversary planning and execution.

Action: Peter – AD7EU Develop a game plan, schedule and budget proposals for our 90th Anniversary Celebration, and solicit anniversary planning team members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Hamfests/Swap Meets: Mick Pier – KK7QS reported on the receipt of several communications; a message soliciting our participation in the Mason County Fair, and a Mike and Key notice of their Hamfest/Swap meet this year. Frank Palmer – AC7JY will explore W7DK participation/table in the Mike and Key event.

Jerry Seligman Status: Larry – KD4VOM Larry reported on a recent visit to Jerry who has returned to the Madigan Intensive Care Ward following a brief stay at a nursing home. Jerry remains in very poor condition and is currently unable to breathe on his own. The last time Larry visited him, he was unaware that anyone was there.

Larry also reported that he has established contact with Jerry's Daughter, Margaret to offer any help the Club can give. Margaret asked that we do all we can to stop the 20 to 30 telephone calls a day Mrs. Seligman was receiving concerning Radio Club Activities or inquiries about Jerry.

Larry has agreed with Margaret that he will maintain contact with her and use this method to keep Club members informed of Jerry's status.

Action: Send E-mail through Gary McAdams Club list to all members advising them of Jerry's condition and asking them to route any inquiries through Larry, who will coordinate them with Margaret.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM

RICHARD (LARRY) WATSON Secretary

**RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MINUTES
11 January, 2005**

The 11 January Monthly Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Mick Pier-KK7QS called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

President: Mick Pier-KK7QS,

Vice President: Jill Palmer -K7JIL,

Secretary: Larry Watson-KD4VOM,

Treasurer: Pat Wingerter-KD7TRC,

Board Member: Frank Palmer-AC7JY,

Board Member Roddney Saucedo-WV7O

Board Member Peter Baker - AD7EU

Board Member Larry Alvar - KD7TQW

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by President Mick Pier

INTRODUCTIONS:

Guests Casey Hicks and Jean Cassidy were introduced, followed by self introductions.

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY:

Jerry Seligman: Larry reported on his recent visit to Jerry at Madigan General. Jerry is doing better, but now battling pneumonia. He remains in serious condition.

Rich Patrick KR7W reminded us that Roy Rudebaugh has become a Silent Key. He was only with our club for a short time but was a contributor and will be missed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Larry Watson - KD4VOM

Bank Statements from Washington Mutual, A QSO Card, A membership renewal, and flyers for the Mike and Key Hamfest Scheduled for 11 March 2006 at the Western Washington Fairgrounds in Puyallup.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Larry - KD4VOM summarized the minutes from the 5 January Board meeting. These Board minutes will appear in the next BARK.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Pat Wingerter - KD7TRC:

The Treasurers Report was made available for review

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Awards Banquet: Rich Manson - N7ANF provided a brief report on the very successful Christmas Awards Banquet.

Library: Doug Oakman - AD7AV provided an update report on the activities and progress of the Library teams activities. The Library committee has established the following goals for 2006:

- Continue and hopefully finish cataloging and labeling library materials
- Redo the shelving (with assistance of Rich KR7W) for better accommodation of the library and its use
- Enhance the library with selective new acquisitions
- Establish a library computer terminal upstairs for searching the library catalog and viewing on-line journals like QST.
- Work on archiving old pictures - this will be assisted by Larry Watson KD6VOM and Dick Ryan W7RGD, the club's Historian
- Posting of policies and other library tings of interest to the club website

The full Library report is attached to the original minutes.

VE Testing: John Clarke - AC7WW

John reported the results of Monday night's VE testing session. 13 Volunteer Examiners administered 28 elements to 18 candidates at the Clubhouse.

13 achieved their Technician licenses, Rick Rose passed

the CW code text and an 11 year old from Puyallup passed his Technician class license. One gentleman, who had been licensed in 1943, began his way back to the amateur radio bands by passing the Technician's License exam, and another who had been licensed in the 1960's also passed the Technician's exam. A copy of the VE report is attached to the original minutes.

PROGRAM:

Nick Winter K7MO: Program chairman, introduced our evenings program.

Field Day 2005: Rich Patrick -- K7RW presented a well orchestrated audio/video presentation of the highlights and activities of our 2005 World Class Field Day operations. Another top flight media presentation from "Rich Patrick Productions"...

The media presentation was followed by a lively session of personal experiences by those who participated in the 2005 Field Day. Nick -- K7MO related Larry --KD7TQW Alvar's surprise at the extent of our operations compared to the Olympia Radio Club's Field Day activities, and Rich -- KR7W related his encounter late at night with Rodney Saucedo's dog. Larry -- KD4VOM recalled the interesting dialog surrounding the raising of one of the military surplus beam antenna towers near the 20 meter rig. More opinions than there were people on "how to do it".

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

90th Anniversary: The Radio Club of Tacoma celebrates its 90th Anniversary in 2006 -- Time to start planning for the big event...16 October 1916 was the date we were established.

Peter Baker, AD7EU: has volunteered to head up these years 90th Celebration, and can use all the help we can muster to make this a truly memorable anniversary year.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Clubhouse Safety: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM reported on the outstanding safety report Rick Rose --KE7EMW -

Straight Key Night: Rich Patrick --KR7W reported on the very successful New Year's Eve Straight Key night. Over 40 joined the festivities at the Clubhouse, enjoying a

great pot-luck meal and even some antique radio operations. Although one of the old rigs gave up the ghost, the "Old Oak Rig" managed to contact Murray Island. Lots of QRM, but fun nevertheless...

CW Code Class: Rich -- KR7W also reported that several have made their first CW contacts; Peter Baker -- AD7EU; Rick Rose -- KE7EMW; Pat Wingerter -- KD7TRC and Harry Adams --KE7FLM. The class has two sessions remaining.

Repeater Report: Nick Winter -- K7MO Reported that progress is being made on the annual repeater maintenance. There will be times when the repeater is down, be patient.

Discussion Topics:

Birthdays in the BARK: Some have missed the birthdays in the BARK feature, partly because of the new formatting. Mick -- KK7QS will let Gary know.

Book Sales: Bill Lucas announced that he had coordinated with Steve Morton who has assumed ARRL book requisition and management to provide for the general membership to order books. Since Steve cannot attend most of the regular membership meetings, Bill plans to have a catalog list and will take orders for books at the regular meetings.

Worth Commentary: Worth commented that Mike Sexsmith W7MSX was now in Port Angeles, on his way to Sequim for three months. He also offered that he has nice book with some interesting National Security Agency perspective for any who might be interested, recalling his days in the 1940s while working for the FCC and listening for "Strange Signals". There was also mention of Dan Brown's book: "**Digital Fortress by Mick -- KK7QS.**"

Life Membership: Jill N7JIL announced a new Life Member, Bob Purdom -- KE7DGQ

Door Prize winner:

The Door Prizes were a Midland Field Strength Meter selected by Charles Smith KD7UAN and a gift certificate for McCormick and Schmick's by Rick Leary -- W7LKG.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm

RICHARD (LARRY) WATSON Secretary

RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

☐ **Renewal** _____ → Name _____ Call _____
(Membership has not lapsed) * See member price below

☐ **Reinstatement** _____ → Name _____ Call _____
(Membership has lapsed for more than 1 year) * See member price below

☐ I would also like to add additional family member/s @ \$15 ea. (more than 2 are free)

Names, Calls & License Class if applicable _____

☐ No changes in any of my information this year. ☐ Yes, I have changes in my address, phone #'s or email. (Please make changes below)

Address _____ City/State _____

Zip + 4 _____ Home Phone (____) _____ Wk/Cell (____) _____

Email _____ Please do not publish my ☐ phone #'s or ☐ email in the roster!

NEW MEMBERS ONLY One Application per Member Please

Name _____ Call _____ Class _____ Birthday _____

Address _____ City/State _____

Zip+4 _____ Home Phone (____) _____ Work/Cell phone (____) _____

Email _____ Are you a member of ARRL? ___ Yes ___ No

RCT receives \$15 for each new member who joins ARRL through the club. \$2 for each renewal. ARRL form is in new member packet.

Occupation, hobbies, interests or skills _____

___ I would like to purchase a Club Badge for \$9.00 each. Please print how you would like your badge to read.

Badge Name _____ Badge Call sign _____

Applicant's Signature _____

Annual Membership Dues	PLEASE CHECK ALL MEMBER CATEGORIES THAT APPLY	___ FULL
Full or Associate Renewals and Reinstatements:	\$30	___ ASSOCIATE
Family members at same address: (first 2)	\$15	___ SENIOR
Senior Member (65 or older)	\$25	___ FAMILY
Full Time Student (up to age 25)	\$15	___ STUDENT
Life Membership (20 x the Annual dues) payment plan available		___ LIFETIME

FOR RCT USE ONLY

Dues received \$ _____ Badge fee received \$ _____ Date _____ Receipt # _____

New Member Packet: Date _____ Certificate: Date: _____ Membership Chairman Initials: _____

Mail to: Jill Palmer K7Jil 3817 169th St Ct E Tacoma, WA 98446-2928